

Museum at Vienna, brought by the celebrated traveller and naturalist Natterer from the vicinity of Borba on the Rio Madeira, and numbered 833 of his collection. The bird closely resembles the well-known *C. pareola*, but has the crest yellow. Natterer's notes upon this species are: "From the underwood, rather near the ground; solitary."

I believe it has never yet been published.

XLIV.—On *Scissurella* and *Schismope*.

By J. GWYN JEFFREYS, Esq., F.R.S.

To the Editors of the *Annals of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH I knew that naturalists were, like poets, a "genus irritabile," I confess that I was not quite prepared for Mr. Woodward's attack on me in your last Number.

He says that, because he *thinks* he has discovered an error, and had protested in vain against it, he was bound to publish. I beg leave to dispute the conclusion, if not the whole of the premises.

When I showed Mr. Woodward specimens of the *Scissurella striatula* of Philippi (which I had much pleasure in presenting him with), he called my attention to the conversion of the fissure into a foramen when the shell became adult. We then referred to Sowerby and Philippi; and I went to the Library of the British Museum and consulted D'Orbigny's Memoir. Mr. Woodward having informed me that he did not intend to publish on the subject, I did so, and mentioned in the March number of the 'Annals' that he had pointed out to me the peculiarity in question, and at the same time I cited D'Orbigny's Memoir.

About a fortnight afterwards, in consequence of Mr. Clark having expressed his opinion that *Scissurella* was synonymous or identical with *Trochus*, I made the further communication which appeared in the 'Annals' for last month; and I then went fully into the matter, being backed by the undeniable authority of Dr. Gray. This, Mr. Woodward calls seeking to justify my position by the "testimony of persons unacquainted with the facts of the case"!

Mr. Woodward admitted to me that he had never previously seen any species of *Scissurella* except *S. crispata*; and as he does not state that he has since seen any other, his *belief* that certain species which were described and figured by D'Orbigny, Sowerby and Philippi (eight in number) are varieties of one and the same species, I leave to the judgment of your readers.

The well-known accuracy of the late Mr. Sowerby makes it needless to do more than repeat his statement, that the species which he called *elator* and *concinna* were found in the "Calcaire grossier." Whether those species, or the *S. decussata* and *elegans* of D'Orbigny, are *extinct*, is another question, with which Mr. Woodward is probably not more familiar.

If Mr. Woodward would take the trouble of reading again my paper in the 'Annals' for April, he will, or ought to, be convinced that his remarks as to the separation of *Schismope* from *Scissurella* were unnecessary and uncalled for, because D'Orbigny and Sowerby evidently took their characters of what they regarded as the same genus from different and uncongeneric species.

My reason for wishing Mr. Woodward, instead of myself, in the first instance, to refer to D'Orbigny, was simply that he, and not I, might have the credit (if any) of making this separation. I am therefore sorry that he should have put such a strange construction upon our conversation.

I never heard of any "protest" from Mr. Woodward until I saw his letter in print.

Yours obediently.

J. GWYN JEFFREYS.

Montagu Square, London, 21st May 1856.

P.S. Since writing the above, Professor King has reminded me that in his "Monograph of the Permian Fossils of England" (pp. 213 and 214), he satisfactorily made out *Scissurella* to be the same as *Pleurotomaria*, and that Mr. Morris, in his "Monograph of the Mollusca from the Great Oolite," follows him in that view. It can hardly be said that these naturalists are also "unacquainted" with the subject, so far as regards the palæontological part of it. Professor King quite approves of the separation of *Schismope* from *Scissurella*, although he suspects the former may approach too closely to Deslongchamp's genus *Trochotoma*.

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XLV.—On the *Orang-Utan* or *Mias* of Borneo.

By ALFRED R. WALLACE.

HAVING spent nine months in a district where the *Mias* is most abundant, and having devoted much time and attention to the subject, I wish to give some account of my observations and collections, and particularly to record their bearing on the question of how many species are yet known from Borneo.

I have altogether examined the bodies of seventeen freshly killed Orangs, all but one shot by myself. Of eleven of these